Mr. V. S. Arumugham Pillai (*Thovala* cum *Agastiswaram*): Sir, with reference to answer to part (*b*) may I know from the Land Revenue Commissioner, whether he is aware of any place in the whole of India where such a rate of taxation is available?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao: I cannot say if it is so.

Mr. V. S. Arumukhom Pillai. May I know whether he is aware of the fact that it is Rs. 5 in excess of the tax per acre in the taluks of Madras Presidency?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao: May be so.

Repatriation in Ceylon.

94. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of Travancoreans now residing in Ceylon;

(*b*) whether they are subject to any disabilities by the Government of Ceylon;

(*c*) whether a scheme of repatriation has been passed by the Government of Ceylon for the eviction of Indians including Travancoreans from Ceylon; and

(*d*) if so, what action has been taken by the Government of Travancore to protect the Travancoreans there?

Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar: (*a*) Government have no definite information.

(*b*) and (*c*) Yes.

(*d*) This Government have forwarded their views to the Government of India and sought to impress upon them the necessity to take effective measures for counteracting the policy adopted by the Government of Ceylon which this Government recognise affects prejudicially a large number of Travancoreans. Other steps are also in contemplation.

Convenience of Sabarimala pilgrims.

95. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the approximate number of pilgrims that gathered at Erumeli and Sabarimala during the last "Makara Samkramum" festival;

(*b*) whether sufficient drinking water was available to the pilgrims in both places; and

(*c*) whether there were sufficient number of latrines for the use of pilgrims?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. P. Parameswaran Pillai: (*a*) About 30,000.

(*b*) Not to the extent desired. The available sources of water supply were rendered safe for drinking purposes by chlorination. A few temporary wells were also dug.

(*c*) Yes.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: Sir, may I know with reference to answer to part (*b*) whether Government have taken any steps to supply water?

Mr. P. Parameswaran Pillai: Yes, Sir. Government are considering the means of providing an unfailing source of water supply at Sabarimala and they are under investigation.

Padanayarkulangara—Aalumkadavu road.

96. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have allotted any amount for the maintenance of the village or ryots' roads of Karunagapalli taluk during the current year;

(*b*) whether they have spent any sum during the current year for the maintenance or repair of the Aulumkadavu-Padanayarkulangara road; and

(*c*) whether this road connects the backwater with the main road?

Mr. S. Sesha Aiyar: (*a*) Yes Rs. 447.

(*b*) There is no road by the name Padanayarkulangara—Aalumkadavu road.

(*c*) Does not arise in view of the answer to part (*b*).

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: In respect of part (*b*), may I know whether there is any pathway or ryots road or any communication from Padanayarkulangara to Aulumkadavu?

Mr. S. Sesha Aiyar: I believe that the honourable member means the Karunagapally-Maruthukulangara road.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: Sir, it ends in Aulumkadavu and this place is the terminus of that road or that pathway.

Mr. S. Sesha Aiyar: To that the answer is that we have spent Rs. 246 within the maintenance grant of Rs. 300.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: May I know in the light of that answer, whether the honourable member is aware that there are certain culverts in that road that have fallen into ruin and await speedy improvements?

Mr. S. Sesha Aiyar: No reports have been received.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly